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WASHINGTON

October 20, 1961

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Dear General Norstad:

Since your visit here I have given further thought to the two principal subjects of our discussion in relation to the Berlin situation, namely, contingency planning and the preparatory build-up in NATO military strength.

As you have been informed, all the measures you recommended for immediate action have been authorized and put in motion, except for the replacement of the 3rd battle group now in Berlin which will take place when additional such units move to Europe as part of the Long Thrust exercise.

My present thinking on the preferred sequence of types of actions that we should take in the event of any abrogation of Western rights in Berlin is reflected in the sequence of four courses of action designated by Roman numerals in the enclosed outline. The import of this sequence should be clear to you, and I desire that it serve as the guidance for your discussions with our Allies and for your planning of detailed military operations.

In the course of that planning I ask that you spell out for me with particularity your operational concepts for the command and control procedures.

Two aspects of my present thinking about Berlin planning and preparation deserve especial emphasis.

First:

DECLASSIFIED 10/4/90
NSC Letter F90-217A
Emp NARS, Date 10/24/90

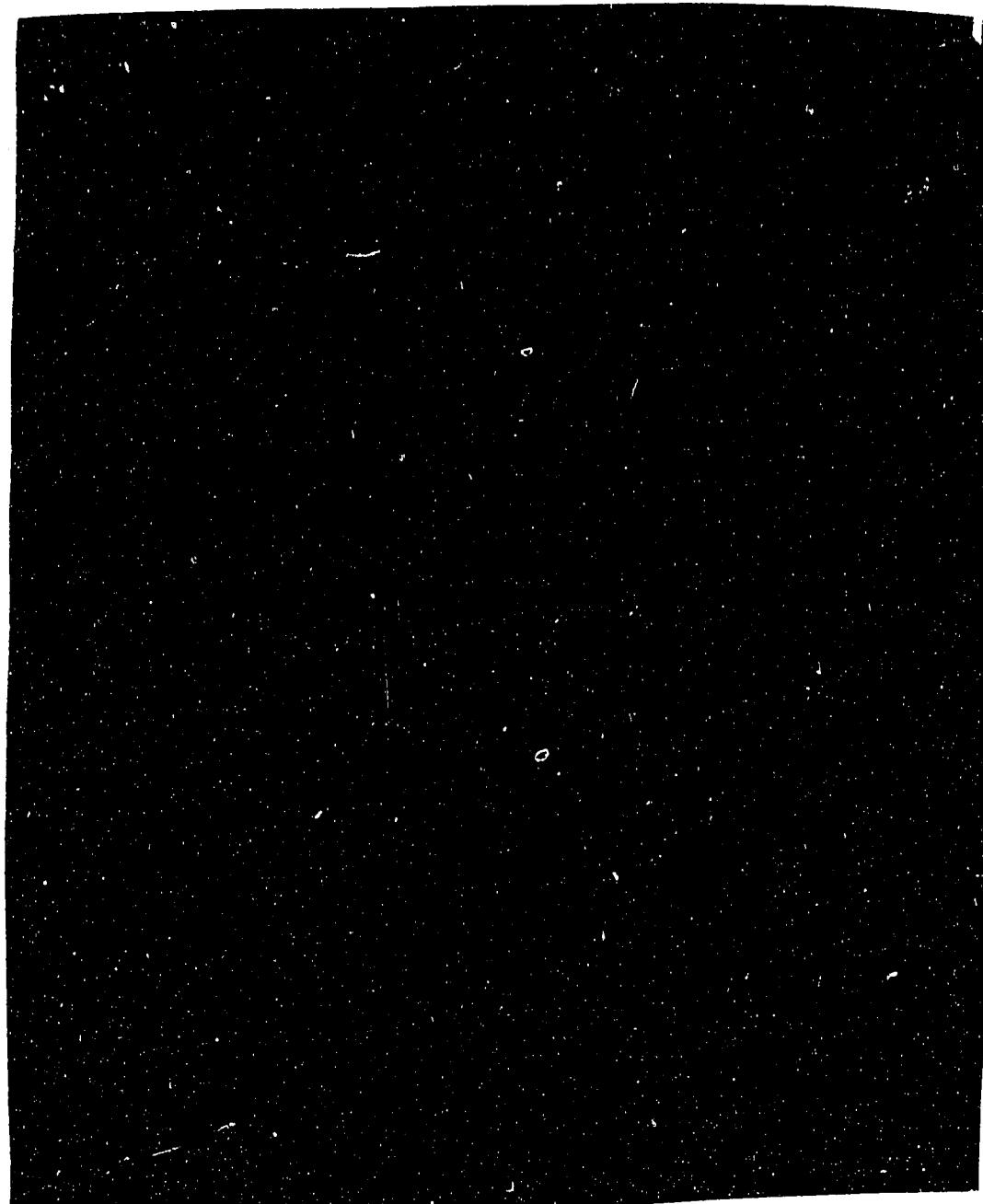
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When contingency plans have been completed and received through established channels, the Joint Chiefs of Staff will review them with me and my other advisors.

Sincerely,

General Lauris Norstad
Supreme Commander
Allied Powers Europe
Paris, France

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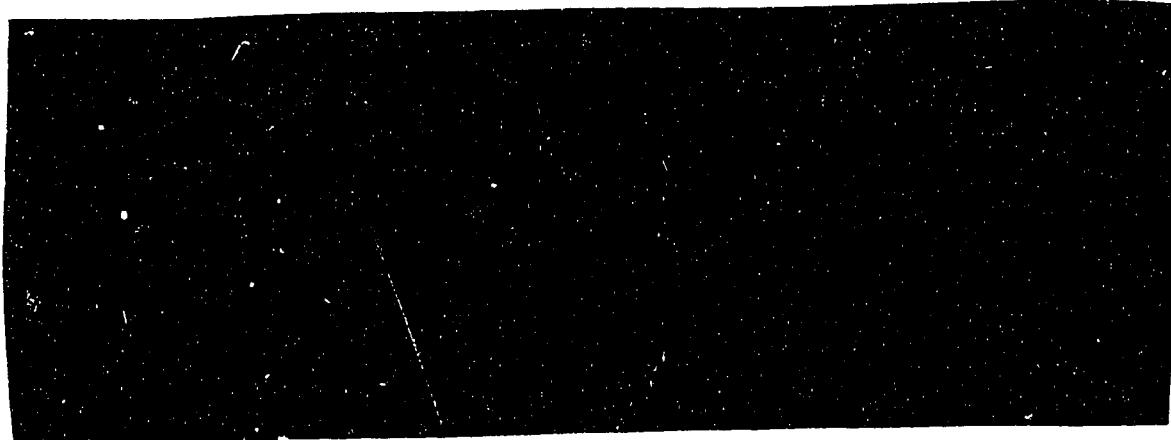
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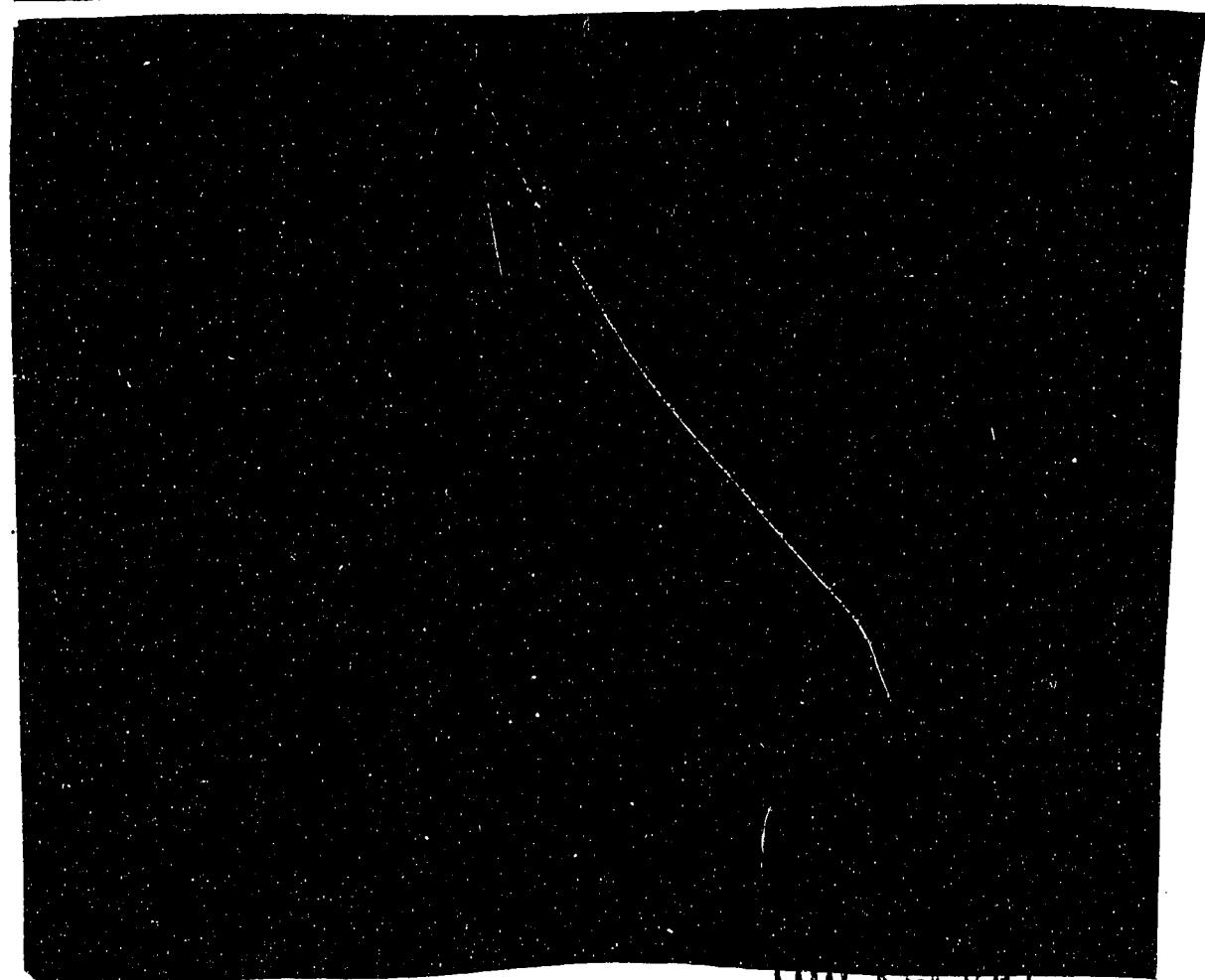
U. S. Policy on Military Actions in a Berlin Conflict

In the event military force is applied in the Berlin situation, it is United States policy that the nature and sequence of such use should preferably be:

I



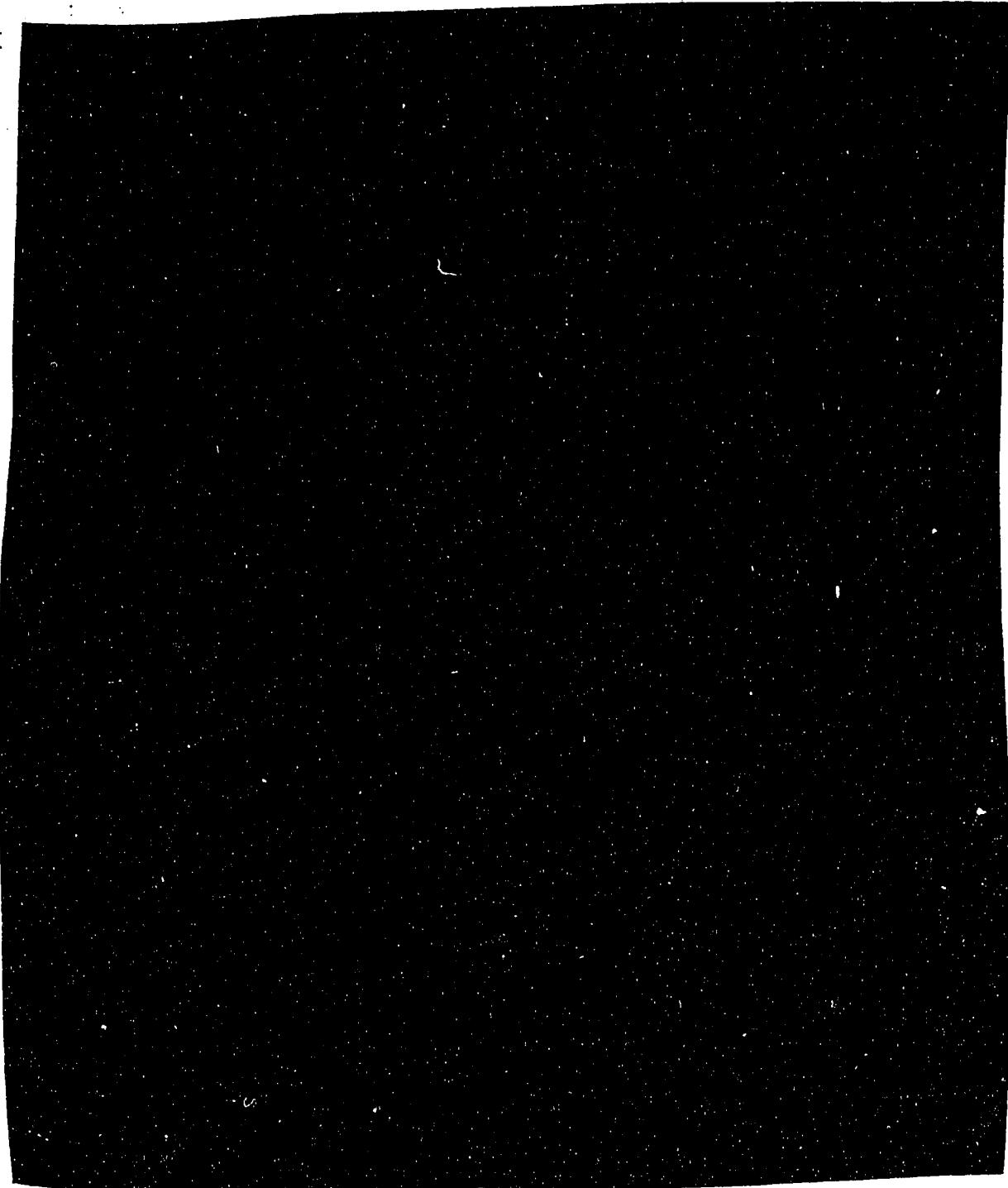
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